



Dr. Yerker Andersson, 1992 distinguished faculty member, addresses panelists (from left) Dr. Richard Meisegeier, Dr. Ronald Sutcliffe, and SBG officers Janice Song and Steven Stubbs, at a Nov. 30 discussion on Gallaudet's undergraduate curriculum.

Undergrad curriculum is discussed

Gallaudet holds the status of being the only liberal arts university for deaf people in the world. But does the University give students the skills they need to succeed in an increasingly competitive job market?

"Undergraduate Curriculum: Does it Meet Our Needs?" this year's Distinguished Faculty Member Lecture, sparked an hour of spirited discussion by a panel and audience members Nov. 30 in "Ole Jim."

The topic was selected by Dr. Yerker Andersson, the University's distinguished faculty member for 1992. Andersson, third-term president of the World Federation of the Deaf and professor of sociology, served as moderator.

Panelists at the event were two faculty members, Dr. Richard Meisegeier, director of the Honors Program, and Dr. Ronald Sutcliffe, associate professor of Business Administration and chair of the Council on Undergraduate Education (CUE), and two students who serve in the Student Affairs unit of the Student Body Government, Janice Song, director, and Steven Stubbs, assistant director.

Andersson said he chose the topics addressed at the discussion from a recent student survey. The survey revealed that some undergraduate students feel that the curriculum is like high school and does not adequately prepare them for postgraduate studies. Some said that too much emphasis is placed on deaf culture and sign language. "Based on my review of student achievements, I was hesitant to accept that as valid," said Andersson, pointing to the fact that "there are 200 deaf people with Ph.Ds, and the majority are from Gallaudet."

During the discussion, audience

member Judy Rosenthal, a coordinator in Experiential Programs Off Campus, said that her office receives feedback from employers that the Gallaudet students who work with them are not as prepared in their fields of study as students from other colleges and universities. A student in the audience, who said she transferred to Gallaudet from a "hearing college in Miami where I took challenging courses," noted that her courses here are "boring, so I'm thinking of transferring."

Song said she thinks Gallaudet's curriculum is unbalanced because there are basically two groups of students here—those who are here to get the best education they can to prepare themselves for the work world, and those who attend Gallaudet for social/cultural reasons.

A great concern shared by many students, said Song, is that many undergraduates must take courses such as English 50 and mathematics that require homework and tests but do not offer credit. "This makes students lose motivation," she said. "High schools need to better prepare students so they won't have to take remedial courses."

Poor sign communication skills by some faculty members is another factor that keeps students from reaching their academic potential, Song added.

Stubbs agreed that faculty should shoulder some of the blame for poor student performance. "The curriculum is not like a high school, but perhaps students feel like it's a high school because there is no [classroom] interaction, no opportunity for discussion," he said.

A common complaint from many students, according to Stubbs, is

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President responds to 'hate diatribes'

The following is a message from Gallaudet President I. King Jordan to the University community.

Recently two printed messages have been posted on campus that can only be described as 'hate diatribes.' The writers, who have chosen to remain anonymous, attack individuals who have expressed controversial opinions about sign communication. It seems that their aim is to suppress any ideas with which they disagree. I agree with Patricia Aufderheide, a faculty member in the School of Communication at American University, who has written that "in our multicultural democracy, we desperately need social spaces where we can differ productively, and the university is one of them." It should never be necessary to defend the tenets of free speech at a university. Gallaudet is heir to the long, proud university tradition of open inquiry and research. On our campus, we must all strive to ensure that questioning is ever welcome, that diverse views are judged on the basis of merit rather than political acceptability.

Since Edward Miner Gallaudet differed with Alexander Graham

Bell, Gallaudet has been at the center of controversial discussion. Some of the conversations have been unique to Gallaudet, while others have reflected issues of national concern. Currently, communication, language, and diversity are among the issues we are heatedly debating. I cherish this discourse; thesis and antithesis, contention and question, justification and dispute are the lifeblood for all productive change.

Individuals in our community must never be intimidated for the way they think, for what they believe, or for what they say. Each of us has the right, indeed each of us has the obligation, to state our beliefs and suppositions no matter how unpopular or unwelcome they may be. Each of us has an equal obligation, to thoughtfully consider those ideas no matter how strongly we disagree. If each of us cannot say what we believe without fear of reprisal, if the academy tries to suppress unpopular views rather than weighing them, we will have failed our students, our community, and ourselves.

I will continue to insist that Gallaudet be a place where we do, in fact, "differ productively."

Educator/advocate Larry Stewart dies

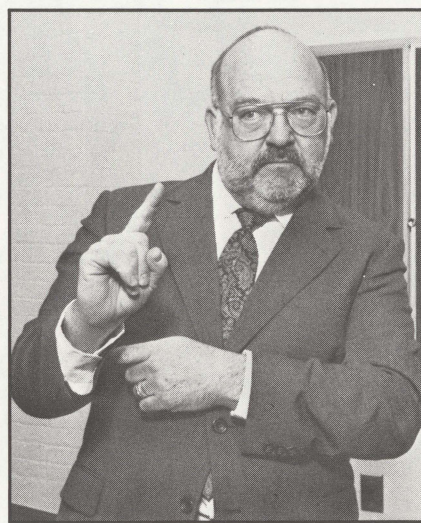
Dr. Larry Stewart, 55, a professor of clinical psychology at Gallaudet University and a long-time advocate for the education and rehabilitation rights of deaf children, died on Nov. 26—Thanksgiving Day—at the Washington Home Hospice in Greenbelt, Md., from cancer of the liver. A 1957 Gallaudet graduate, Stewart was the first deaf person to earn a doctorate in rehabilitation psychology, which he received from the University of Arizona, Tucson, in 1970. He returned to Gallaudet as an

associate professor in 1989 to help spearhead its doctoral program in clinical psychology, which began in fall 1990. Stewart also was interim director of the Comprehensive Community Mental Health Center, which will offer limited services beginning in January and will eventually offer psychological assessment and research, plus social work and counseling services.

"He was a very bright and creative person. I'd call him brilliant," said Dr. Neil Reynolds, chair of the Psychology Department. "It's hard to believe he was only here three years. He was so active, so involved, so filled with ideas, that it seems as if he was here much longer."

Respected by his colleagues as an outstanding teacher, writer, and leader in the field of rehabilitation and psychology, Stewart contributed significantly to the field of mental health services for deaf people, most notably in the area of policy development and as an expert in forensic psychology in numerous court cases. He also was instrumental in establishing special programs for deaf people who have additional disabilities by securing funding from federal and state sources. But faculty, staff, and students all point beyond Stewart's

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Dr. Larry Stewart

Effectiveness of curriculum weighed

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foreign language requirements. Many students are native signers and struggle to learn English skills, he said. "Why learn a third?"

In response to Song's complaint about noncredit courses, Sutcliffe said that these courses should be limited to the School of Preparatory Studies. "We need to send a message to schools to better prepare students," said Sutcliffe. "If they don't make it, they can't be promoted."

Sutcliffe added that the CUE is working on updating general education requirements and welcomes comments from the University community on ways to revise the general education curriculum to better prepare students for the future, both economically and socially.

Meisegeier said that the noncredit courses are the ticket many students need for admission to the University. "If we didn't require them, there would be a very small enrollment of students," he said. Meisegeier pointed out that more than 50 percent of the University's honors students take algebra I,

II, or geometry, and without these courses, they wouldn't have been accepted at the University. "Many schools say 'leave it to Gallaudet' to prepare students. We need to change that," he said.

A key problem with undergraduates at Gallaudet is that they don't come to class prepared, said Meisegeier. "Many students say they find their [text] books too difficult to read, so they're not prepared for class discussion. Many students think that discussion means to talk off the top of your head," he said. It may be time for faculty to raise their expectations of students, said Meisegeier, even if it means that some fail their courses.

Song and Stubbs both agreed with Meisegeier's assessment. "Students need to realize that if they fail—sorry. In the real world, it's not as nice out there," said Stubbs. Said Song, "Teachers need to have higher expectations of students, but they should also make it clear why the courses are important and make classes more exciting. I think that will improve students' motivation."



MSSD Performing Arts Director Tim McCarty shows CDC students and teacher Stephany Sims makeup techniques during a backstage tour before MSSD's Fall Dance Concert Nov. 20.

Announcements

President I. King Jordan and Linda Jordan invite Gallaudet faculty and staff to visit them for the annual Holiday Open House at House One on Wednesday, Dec. 9, from 1-4 p.m.

The winners in the Nov. 17 election for the five vacancies on the Staff Advisory Committee were Rosa Mann, Paul Blakely, Vanessa Slade, and Susan Martin, all from the University, and Diana Gates from the Northwest Campus.

Open season will be in effect until Jan. 31 for employees in the Federal Employees' Retirement System or Civil Service Retirement System to start or change their contributions to the Thrift Savings Plan. For information about the plan, call Agnes Muse, benefits assistant, at x5111.



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Forms are available in the Personnel Office, College Hall, Room 106.

In recognition of 1992 as the Year of the Native American, a highlight of Deaf Heritage Week Dec. 6-12 at the D.C. Public Library will be a program presented by deaf Native Americans from Gallaudet on Thursday, Dec. 10, at noon at the Martin Luther King Memorial Library, 901 G St. NW. The library is accessible from the Metro Center and Gallery Place Metro stops.

Deaf women of all ages who have dealt with breast cancer and who would be willing to share their experiences with a "Deaf Mosaic" television audience are asked to call TV, Film, and Photography, x5115, E-mail JDMURRAY, send a letter to LN-30 via campus mail, or fax x5124.

The Child Development Center's (CDC) advisory council seeks input on its child care and parenting education programs. To assist in this effort, Gallaudet students who are parents are asked to fill out a survey form and return it before the winter break to Gail Solit, CDC director. To obtain a form, call x5130 or E-mail GASOLIT.

Providers of Captioning Services for Video Productions, a publication that gives information on 56 vendors that provide captioning services, is available for \$1.50 per copy from the National Information Center on Deafness (NICD). The publication is the result of a survey conducted by NICD and Gallaudet's Technology Assessment Program.

Correction

In the Nov. 9 issue of *On the Green*, Pre-College Programs was omitted from the list of sponsors of the ASL in Schools: Policies and Curriculum conference.

Stewart's accomplishments recalled

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prowess at writing grant proposals, at teaching, and in planning major projects to the man they knew as a friend. "People were very important to [Stewart]," said Carolyn Baldwin. When juggling her roles as administrative secretary for the Psychology Department, parent, and night student got her down, she said, "He was always there to encourage me. He gave me so much strength."

A native of Gladewater, Texas, Stewart graduated from the Texas School for the Deaf in Austin. He received his master's degree in rehabilitation counseling from the University of Missouri, Columbia. His career spanned from dormitory counselor to teacher at the two state schools for the deaf, to rehabilitation counselor, to faculty at several universities, and included an eight-year stint in private

practice. He came to the Gallaudet faculty from the Illinois School for the Deaf, where he was superintendent.

Survivors include his wife, Maria Stewart of Greenbelt, Md.; two sons, Lamar of California and Lee of Arizona; one granddaughter, five brothers, and one sister, all of Texas.

A memorial service for family and invited friends was held Dec. 5. Arrangements for a memorial service for the Gallaudet community are pending. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that expressions of sympathy be made through contributions to any of the following: the Psychology Department Clinical Psychology Scholarship Fund in Stewart's name, the American Cancer Society, the Washington Home Hospice; and any reputable shelter for battered spouses, abused children, and homeless people.

Classified Ads

Classified ads are printed free for Gallaudet faculty and staff. Ads must be submitted in writing to *On the Green*, MSSD, Room G-37, or E-mail LMMCCONNELL. Off-campus phone numbers must include an area code and whether the number is voice or TDD. Ads may be run two weeks if requested and if space permits. Ads received Dec. 7-24 will be published Jan. 10. Because of the winter break, *On the Green* will not be published Dec. 21, 28, or Jan. 3.

WANTED: Female companion w/sign skills to fix meals and do light housekeeping for elderly woman at Leisure World in Silver Spring, Md., on bus line to Wheaton Metro. Call (301) 572-5354 or (301) 776-9112 (V/TDD).

WANTED: Nonsmoking professional to rent spacious room in country house in Dunkirk, Md., kitchen and living room privileges, W/D, CAC, DW, must like pets and have own trans., \$450/mo. incl. util. Call Gary, x6486 or (301) 855-6264 (TDD).

FOR SALE: PC with 286 CPU, 3 1/2- and 5 1/4-in. drives, amber monitor and 512K RAM, \$375/BO. Call (301) 890-2752 (TDD).

FOR RENT: Two rooms in townhouse in Laurel, Md., to mature nonsmokers, no pets, \$215 and \$250/\$275 mo., plus 1/3 util. Call (301) 604-4190 (TDD) evs., weekends.

FOR SALE: IBM compatible 80mb hard drive, IBM RAM expandable to 80mb, 16mhz, 14-in. color monitor, like new, \$1,500/BO. Call (301) 249-8589 (TDD), or E-mail JBGRINDSTAFF.

FREE: WordPerfect 5.0 no-disk manuals. E-mail K_KKURLYCHEK, or pick up at MSSD, Rm. 213.

FOR SALE: Night table, dresser, headboard, \$80; Eureka wet/dry vacuum w/accessories, \$50; fall/winter dress suits (some Liz Claiborne), \$30. Call (301) 306-0424 (V/TDD), or E-mail EMROBBINS or KHALL.

FOR SALE: Texas Instruments Postscript Microlaser printer, 35 fonts, exc. cond., \$750/BO. Call x5613 or E-mail NSWILLIAMS.

FOR RENT: English basement apt., 1,000 sq. ft., secure, private, patio, garden, W/D, near Metro, Adams Morgan, Howard Univ., \$750/mo. inc. util. Call (202) 462-4440.

FOR RENT: Furnished room in house, secure, private, share bath, kitchen, W/D, near Adams Morgan, Howard Univ., \$325/mo. plus 1/4 util. Owner knows some ASL. Call (202) 462-4440.

FOR RENT: Sublet private BR Dec. 29-Jan. 24 w/furn., color TV w/decoder; rent private BR avail. Jan. 1, 1993, \$210 plus 1/3 elec.; both share kitchen, W/D, 5-min. walk to Kendall Green. Call John, x3113 or E-mail 11JMHOLLAN.

FOR SALE: Serta mattress and box spring, like new, \$80/BO. Call John, x3113 or E-mail 11JMHOLLAN.

Job Openings

Some of the advertised positions may already be filled. The list below includes only new staff and faculty openings and does not represent all jobs available. To get a recorded message describing the complete list, call x5358 or x5359 (TDD).

RESIDENCE EDUCATION ASSISTANT: Pre-College Programs

ACQUISITIONS LIBRARY ASSOCIATE: Library

FACULTY: Psychology Department

MATH TEACHERS: MSSD, Extended Temporary

ASSISTANT BASEBALL AND ASSISTANT

TRACK COACHES: Athletics Department

INSTRUCTOR/ASSISTANT PROFESSOR:

Department of Physical Education and Recreation